

Long Island Sound Watershed  
Intermunicipal Council  
c/o Town of Mamaroneck Conservation Dept.  
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## **FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT- October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005**

The Long Island Sound Watershed Intermunicipal Council's (LISWIC) main objective has been to organize, manage, and improve the Council as a means of encouraging cooperation among the member municipalities. The cooperating municipalities share a number of common goals including the prevention of non-point source pollution, the remediation of existing pollution and the preservation of open space and natural resources. The founding members of the Council are the Cities of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Rye, the Town of Mamaroneck, the Town-Villages of Harrison and Scarsdale, and the Villages of Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Pelham Manor, Port Chester, and Rye Brook. The Village of Pelham requested membership in LISWIC in September 2002 and their petition was accepted and approved in November 2002.

The Council is organized under bylaws and is governed by an Executive Committee and Board of Representatives. The Executive Committee members elected in October 2004 for one year terms were Phyllis Wittner Chair (Mamaroneck Town), Steven Otis Vice Chair (Rye City), Leonard Verrastro Treasurer (Mamaroneck Village), Christopher Bradbury Secretary (Rye Brook) and two members from the Board of Representatives, Stephen Pappalardo (Scarsdale) and James Maxwell (New Rochelle). Mr. Maxwell resigned in March 2005 upon his retirement from public service. The Board of Representatives consists of two members representing each municipality.<sup>1</sup> Each of the latter may have up to three alternates. A part-time Coordinator serves as the staff aide. Meetings are held monthly; the Annual Meeting takes place in October. Subcommittees are formed when specific issues are to be investigated.. Annual membership dues of \$500 were collected in 2005.

### **Phase II Compliance-**

#### **Remove Illegal Connections**

Discussions continued regarding methods by which the members can work together to implement the Federal Stormwater Phase II Regulations promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the New York State (NYS) Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Mamaroneck Village provided legislation that they adopted requiring the removal of all illegal connections to the sanitary or storm sewer system prior to the issuance of building permits or

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix-I.

certificates of occupancy. Subsequently, the Town of Mamaroneck adopted legislation that would require a discharge compliance certificate by a licensed plumber or the Director of Building Code Enforcement and Land Use Administration or his designee for real property that is sold after January 1, 2006. Both laws were circulated to the membership. Adoption of this type of legislation achieves compliance with Phase II stormwater regulations regarding detection and elimination illegal sewer connections.

### **Educational Materials**

The following were distributed to members during the course of the year for distribution to the public:

*Go Native* brochures- The Westchester County Department of Parks and Recreation provided LISWIC with 1,000 copies of this brochure which explains the benefits of planting native shrubs and trees and identifies some of them as well.

NYS DEC Bookmarks- Originally created by the Hudson River Estuary Program with a NYS grant, the bookmarks were adapted for LISWIC and Long Island Sound.

Children's illustrated sheet explaining the impacts of stormwater runoff.

### **Storm Drain Markers**

The group purchased 6,500 storm drain markers which read "DO NOT DUMP, DRAINS TO WATERWAY; NO TIRE DESECHOS AQUI, CONTAMINA EL AGUA". The colorful emblem has a red border and pictures an active striped bass. It is easily installed with a special glue. Nine municipalities were involved in the purchase. Some will have students, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and local organizations involved with the installation while others will have the work done by their Public Works Department. LISWIC created a press release to explain the program and solicit volunteers.

### **Stormwater Utility District (SUD)**

Background: A NYS Environmental Protection Fund grant application was submitted to the DEC in October 2003 accompanied by nine letters of intent (Mamaroneck Town and Village, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Pelham, Port Chester, Rye City, Rye Brook and Scarsdale) to participate in a Regional Stormwater Utility District. The grant, *Creation of a Regional Stormwater District for the Lower Long Island Sound Drainage Basin* was awarded on May 18, 2004 in the amount of \$100,000. The required 50% local match is comprised of \$45,000 in cash (\$5,000 from each of the nine participating municipalities) and \$83,000 in in-kind services. The participating municipalities have pledged their financial and administrative support for their proportional share of the local match by resolution of their governing bodies. In response to letters sent to State Representatives and Senators (March 2004) requesting member item funds for the project, State Senator Suzi Oppenheimer forwarded an additional \$3,000 towards the grant.

The grant would provide funding to hire an experienced professional consulting firm to produce a district management and operations plan providing for the appropriate methodology for establishing a regional stormwater utility district (SUD) including a

governing body and funding mechanism (fee supported) for the implementation of identified stormwater pollution preventive measures within the lower Long Island Sound drainage area.. The SUD is an effective way to deal with the issue of stormwater management and compliance with the Phase II regulations. The district will have a basin and watershed plan, an education and outreach program, a capital improvement plan, an operations and maintenance program and a source control plan. A district board comprised of members from each municipality, probably based on population, would be formed to govern the district. Issues concerning the determination of fees, the size of parcels to be included in the district remain to be decided.

DEC requested a work plan be submitted by the end of November 2004 with the expectation of issuing a contract by April 2005. The contract was finally in effect by August 23, 2005. The Request For Proposals document was written by Village of Scarsdale staff and critiqued by a subcommittee before finalized by the Board of Representatives at its September meeting.

### **Historic Harbor Fair**

For the second consecutive year, LISWIC participated in the Village of Mamaroneck's Historic Harbor Fair on June 12, 2005. As previously, LISWIC sponsored an exhibit by the Norwalk Aquarium featuring a touch tank with organisms from Long Island Sound and a "pollution soup" to demonstrate the impacts of stormwater pollution.

LISWIC events took place in the water pavilion tent. These were a stormwater runoff demonstration table that included a roadway section and a catch basin which was constructed by the New Rochelle Department of Public Works staff. The Westchester County Department of Planning loaned an "Enviroscape" interactive display which demonstrated nonpoint source pollution. Mount Vernon created an illustrated handout for children which explained the impacts of stormwater runoff. Also given away was an attractive bookmark discussing stormwater. Other education and outreach materials were available at the booth. Videos shown at the previous Harbor Fair were rerun.

Receiving acknowledgment for the months spent on this project and participation at the Harbor Festival were Larchmont, Mamaroneck Town and Village, New Rochelle, Pelham, Rye Brook, Rye City and Scarsdale. Thanks also went to Elizabeth Paul and Mamaroneck High School students who assisted in setting up and taking down the displays.

### **SPDES Permit**

Guest speaker Elizabeth Radow, Co-Chair of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Water Quality (Village of Mamaroneck), discussed the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) requirements. A discussion ensued regarding Phase II stormwater regulations, the use of Best Management Practices at marinas, and effective methods for removing oil and other pollutants from stormwater discharges.

**Website**

Work was completed by Elizabeth Paul on the creation of a website for LISWIC. We urge everyone to visit the site at [www.LISWIC.org](http://www.LISWIC.org). Among the links are those to each LISWIC municipality, NYS DEC and DOS, US EPA, the Westchester County Department of Planning and the Hudson River Greenway.

**Amendment to Bylaws**

The method of determining a quorum is now determined by a majority of the member municipalities present at a meeting with at least one representative (as opposed to an alternate) present.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Fiscal year June 1, 2004- May 31, 2005

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Balance forward- June 1, 2004			10,429.49
Dues		3,000.00	
Interest		47.40	
Miscellaneous	33.24		
LISWIC Banner	161.25		
Administrative work	2,029.68		
Web site	377.00		
Postage & Office supplies	81.38		
Stationery & envelopes	169.00		
Maritime Aquarium-Harbor Fest	<u>850.00</u>		
Totals	3,701.55	<u>3,047.40</u>	
Ending balance- May 31, 2005			\$9,775.34

**APPENDIX-I**

LISWIC BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES - October 2004- September 2005

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	
<b>Harrison</b>		
Hugh Greechan	Asst. Commissioner Public Works	
Robert Wasp	Commissioner Public Works	
Alternate: Stephen Malfitano	Supervisor/Mayor	
<b>Larchmont</b>		
Liz Feld	Trustee	
Michael Wiener	Trustee	
Alternate: Kenneth Bialo	Mayor	
<b>Mamaroneck, Town</b>		
Stephen V. Altieri	Town Administrator	
Phyllis Wittner	Councilwoman	
<b>Mamaroneck Village</b>		
Leonard Verrastro	Village Manager	
Christie Derrico	Trustee	(Until November 2004)
William Paonessa	Deputy Mayor	(Appointed January 2005)
Alternates: Christie Derrico		(Appointed March 2005)
Robert Yamuder	Asst. Village Manager	
Thomas Murphy	Trustee	(Appointed March 2005)
<b>Mount Vernon</b>		
Curtis J. Woods	Deputy Comm. Publ.Wks	(In Iraq until March 2005)
Leslie Alpert		
<b>New Rochelle</b>		
Charles Strome	City Manager	
James Maxwell	Commissioner Publ. Wks.	(Until March 2005)
Omar Small	Asst. to City Manager	(Appointed May 2005)
<b>Pelham</b>		
Richard Slingerland	Village Manager	
Dennis Del Borgo	Administrative Assistant	
Alternate: Thomas Hanusik	Public Works	(Appointed November 2004)
<b>Pelham Manor</b>		
John Pierpont	Village Manager	

**APPENDIX I- cont.**

**Port Chester**

James Cole  
Jason Molino  
Gary Raconiello  
Alternate: Richard Falanka

Superintendent Publ. Wks. (October-December 2004)  
Asst. to Village Manager  
General Foreman  
Village Manager

**Rye Brook**

Christopher Bradbury  
Victor Carosi

Administrator  
Village Engineer

**Rye City**

Steven Otis  
George Mottarella  
Alternate: Paul Shew

Mayor  
Engineer  
City Manager

**Scarsdale**

Stephen Pappalardo  
Elizabeth Marrinan  
Alternate: Alfred Gatta  
Daniel Sarnoff

Deputy Village Manager  
Village Planner  
Village Manager  
Asst. to Village Manager

Coordinator: Elizabeth Paul

## APPENDIX- II

### HARBOR FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Leslie Alpert  
Christie Derrico  
Liz Feld  
James Maxwell  
Stephen Pappalardo  
Charles Strome  
Elizabeth Paul

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS COMMITTEE

Dan Sarnoff, Chair  
Victor Carosi  
Omar Small